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FLOOR DEBATE

April 30, 2003      LB 407, 759  
                         LR 82, 83

is trying to help in that monumental struggle. Maybe a person cannot stand on the seashore and with a broom sweep the ocean back. But a person may feel like some effort is being put forth in that direction if she does everything available to be done, and if he does everything at his disposal that can help. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, do you have items?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Thank you. LR 82 and LR 83 offered by Senator Quandahl, both calling for interim studies. Those will be referred to the Executive Board. Amendments to be printed: AM...Senator Stuthman to LB 759, Senator Hartnett to LB 759. (Legislative Journal pages 1534-1535.)

Mr. President, Senator Schimek would move to amend Senator Chambers' amendment. (FA1343, Legislative Journal page 1535.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, you're recognized to open on your amendment

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you. Mr. President and members, the essence of my amendment strikes the second year funding for the Women's Commission, and I do this reluctantly, but I also do it because I think I have a sense of what's happening here this morning. And I would strongly make the argument that this is April 30. The year ends on June 30. What we are doing here this morning, if we don't adopt the Chambers amendment, is we are cutting off this commission 60 days before it's to go out of existence. And I would make the argument that we should provide the next year's funding which would enable the commission to prepare for that eventuality and to see if it will be possible to keep it going as some kind of a nonprofit entity and to raise the kind of funds that would be necessary to keep it going. I think its mission is still important. I think there is still a need for it, and I believe that...I think it would be possible to raise some of this money, and I would like to give them a chance to try. If we eliminate them right now, 60 days, although they have had some warning that this might be coming, I still think it's not fair to the people who have worked in this